AC 4411(2) MALDON

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MALDON

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for

1955

including

Report of the Port Sanitary Inspector

by

T.D.Blott, B.Sc.,M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

MALDON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Comprising the Borough of Maldon, Maldon Rural District, West Mersea Urban District and Lexden and Winstree Rural District.

His Worship the Mayor - Councillor D.T.K.Tonkin,

Aldermen W.Binder, Mrs. E.F.M.Brewster.C.C., D.R.Cargill, E.C.Dines,J.P. and D.C.Fenn.

Councillors K.F.Brady, F.W.Brewster, C.Dowsett, A.V.Edwards, W.G.Ginn, S.Hardy-King, H.W.Jolly, Mrs. W.R.Keeble, D.E.Lewsey, N.J.Mitchell, A.G.Ralph, A.W.Ruggles, C.Thurston and A.E.Woodward.

SECTION I STAFF.

TABLE A.

Name of Officer.	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held.
T.C.Robertson.	Clerk.	1st August 1947	Solicitor and Town Clerk.	Town Clerk Borough of Maldon.
Dr.T.D.Blott.	Medical Officer of Health	1st March 1954.	B.Sc., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health Borough of Maldon.
J.A.Hallett.	Port Sanitary Inspector.	25th September 1950	Cert.S.I.J.B., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.	Sanitary Inspector Borough of Maldon.
C.F.Hunt.	Treasurer.	1st January 1944.	Borough Treasurer.	Treasurer Borough of Maldon.

To the Mayor, the Aldermen and the Councillors of the Borough of Maldon.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my second annual report on the Sanitary condition of the Port of Maldon. This covers the year ending 31st December 1955.

During the year there were no notifications of Infectious Diseases. Conditions were found to be satisfactory on boats inspected although I feel the inspections are carried out too infrequently to ensure that conditions always comply with the standards required by regulations.

In June I attended as your delegate the 56th Annuual Conference of the Association of Sea & Air Port Health Authorities of the British Isles. During the Conference I visited the Kent Oil Refinery on the Isle of Grain to hear a paper on "Malaria and the Thames" read by Dr. W.D.L.Smith. In this paper Dr. Smith dealt with the risks of a return of Malaria to a district consequent on building operations involving the importation of Labour for construction work. I feel his recommendations will be of great value in ensuring that, if the Atomic Power Station is built at Bradwell, a return of malaria to the Blackwater does not occur. A discussion on the protection of the public from infection through canned food, led by Dr. Betty Hobbs of the National Health Laboratory Service, has also proved of the utmost value to me.

Also during June I visited Rotterdam and inspected the Port and warehouses as the guest of the city and discussed food control and food hygiene with the director of the city's food laboratory. I feel that many of their practices and suggestions will be most helpful in ensuring that the hygiene of the Port of Maldon remains satisfactory.

Your Port Health Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hallett, has maintained a most efficient inspection service but he cannot visit shipping lying down river off Stansgate owing to lack of transport facilities.

Your River Bailiff has proved most helpful in keeping me advised of arrivals of shipping and most skilful in taking me to such shipping at all states of the tide.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T.D. Blott,

B.Sc., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

ECTION II - Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B

ıips from.	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected By the Medical Officer of Health	Number Inspected By the Sanitary Inspector	Number of Ships reported as having or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
›reign ›rts	33	10,091	3	9	nil
›astwise	107	6,025	4	28	nil
)TAL	140	16,116	7	47	nil

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ECTION III - Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLe C

ASSENGER TRAFFIC	(Number of passengers INWARDS Nil (Number of passengers OUTWARDS Nil
ARGO TRAFFIC	(PRINCIPAL IMPORTS Timber, Wheat, Live Eels. (PRINCIPAL EXPORTS Wheat
RINCIPAL PORTS from ich ships arrive	London, Colchester, White Sea, Baltic and Norwegian Ports and Rotterdam.

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ECTION IV - Inland Barge Traffic.

Nil.

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SECTION V - Water Supply.

(1) Water for the port water from local supplies is obtained at the various Creeks for barges.

The chief supplies are obtained; At Maldon and Heybridge Basin from the Corporations water mains. At Tollesbury from the public supply. These are all above suspicion.

(2) Analysis of Water Samples.

Frequent samples of the public water supply are submitted for bacteriological analysis. These always give results of the highest quality and the analyst has always expressed himself entirely satisfied with the purity of the public water supply in the Port Health District.

(3) Hydrants & Hose Pipes.

The stand pipe at Heybridge Basin is efficiently maintained and satisfactory. Vessels are expected to provide their own hosepipes.

(4) For Shipping in the River.

From a water boat from Brightlingsea in the Colchester Port district. There is only one water boat. Her sanitary condition is satisfactory.

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1933

(1) List of Infected Areas.

The list is maintained at the office of the Sanitary Inspector. It is amended as and when the circumstances demand and copies are supplied to H.M.Customs Officers and local pilots.

(2) Radio Messages.

No arrangements or facilities exist for the receipt or transmission of messages by radio.

(3) Notifications otherwise than by radio.

Any such notifications from inward vessels would be given to the pilots or Officers of Customs and then passed to this authority. Upon such information being received inward ships are immediately boarded by an Officer of the Authority.

(4) Mooring Stations.

(a) There are no docks in which a suitable mooring station could be designated.

(b) An outside mooring station has been designated near the mouth of Bradwell Creek.

(c) In view of the extreme difficulty of rapid communication with vessels moored in the lower part of the estuary, the Customs Officers have been instructed to allow of boarding and leaving the ship, where the declaration of health and all other circumstances are satisfactory.

(5) Arrangements for:

(a) Hospital accommodation for Infectious Diseases is available at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Chelmsford.
(b) Local Surveillance is maintained by Officers of the Authority. Information concerning contacts in other areas is forwarded to the responsible Authority.
(c) There are no special arrangements for the cleansing or disinfection of ships; Persons, clothing and other articles would be landed and arrangements made for the cleansing as required.

SECTION Vll - Smallpox.

(1) The Essex County Council are responsible for the arrangements for the treatment of persons suffering from Smallpox and provide hospital accommodation, as and when required.

(2) Ambulance facilities are provided by the Essex County Council, who are responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Dr.J.D.Lerghaw, Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Colchester.

(4) No special arrangements have been made for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

SECTION Vlll - Venereal Disease.

Facilities exist for the treatment of both out and in-patients at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester. Out-patients treatment is available as follows:-

Mondays:	Males	6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
	Females	5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Fridays:	Males	3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
	Females	2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

It has not been considered necessary to take any special steps to make this information known to seamen.

SECTION IX - Cases of Notifiable and Other Infectious Diseases on ships.

TABLE D

NIL.

If any such cases or suspected cases are reported the crew are required to remain aboard and no contact with shore is permitted except by the boarding of the ship by the pilot or the officers of customs, until the circumstances have been fully investigated and all members of the crew have been medically examined.

SECTION X - Observations on the Occurrence of Malaria in Ships.

NIL

SECTION XI - Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No special measures in this connection have been thought necessary in the past.

SECTION XII - Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

(1) Deratization or Deratization Exemption Certificates of vessels inspected are examined. Foreign-going vessels very rarely lie at quays and no trouble has ever been experienced with regard to rodents.

(2) No special arrangements have been made for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents and none have been sent for such examinations during the year.

(3) There are no facilities in the port for the deratization of ships.

(4) No special measures of rat-proofing have been found necessary.

TABLE E

NIL.

TABLE F

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

NIL.

SECTION XIII - Inspection of Dwellings for Nuisances.

TABLE 8

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and Number of Inspections.		Notices Served. Statutory Notices	Other Notices	Results of Serving Notices.
Crew accommodation.	54	NIL	NIL	NIL
Galley and Food Store.	54	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total.	108	NIL	NIL	NIL

SECTION XIV - Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations 1934 & 1948.

NOT APPLICABLE. NO FISHERIES.

During the year under review no special steps have been taken to supervise these fisheries or take samples therefrom. Samples of oysters sent to the London Markets were submitted for examination and no adverse reports have been received.

NOT APPLICABLE. NO OUTFALL.

No special action has been taken in connection with this outfall. The West Mersea Urban District Council have continued the sampling of the sewage flow by "bob" method, but so far no conclusive results have been obtained.

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens (Not Applicable)

SECTION XVI - Miscellaneous.

Dead bodies would be landed at Maldon or Heybridge, and removed to the Mortuary at Chelmsford pending burial there.